

Serial No.: 09/748,994
Attorney Docket No.: F-240

Patent

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REMARKS**1. Status of Claims**

Claims 1, 5, 7 and 10-25 were pending in the Application. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 15 without prejudice or disclaimer and added claims 23-25. Applicant submits that no new matter is added. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the above amendments and consideration of the enclosed remarks. Accordingly, claims 1, 5, 7 and 10-25 will remain pending in the application.

2. Rejections under 35 USC § 103(a)

In section 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 5, 7 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly rendered obvious by U.S. Patent No. 6,256,115 B1 to Adler, et al. ("Adler '115") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,214,702 to Fischer ("Fischer '702").

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for the same reasons stated in the April 17, 2006 Amendment. However, solely in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 15 without prejudice or disclaimer to recite "by clearly marking the received input data indicating a tamper condition" in response to the Examiner's indication of the allowability of similar subject matter in claims 10-11 and 18-19.

Applicant respectfully submits that the related dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 5, 7 and 15 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

In section 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 12-13 and 20-21 (with claims 12-13 as representative of claims 20-21) under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly rendered obvious by U.S. Patent No. 6,256,115 B1 to Adler, et al. ("Adler '115") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,214,702 to Fischer ("Fischer '702") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,023,345 to Bloomfield ("Bloomfield '345").

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Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for the same reasons stated in the April 17, 2006 Amendment. However, solely in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 15 without prejudice or disclaimer to recite "by clearly marking the received input data indicating a tamper condition" in response to the Examiner's indication of allowability of similar subject matter in claims 10-11 and 18-19.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 12-13 and 20-21 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

In section 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 14 and 22 (with claim 14 as representative of claim 22) under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly rendered obvious by U.S. Patent No. 6,256,115 B1 to Adler, et al. ("Adler '115") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,214,702 to Fischer ("Fischer '702") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,579,126 to Otsuka ("Otsuka '126").

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for the same reasons stated in the April 17, 2006 Amendment. However, solely in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 15 without prejudice or disclaimer to recite "by clearly marking the received input data indicating a tamper condition" in response to the Examiner's indication of allowability of similar subject matter in claims 10-11 and 18-19.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 14 and 22 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

3. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the indication in section 7 of the Office Action that claims 10-11 and 18-19 contain subject matter that is allowable over the art of record.

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4. New Claims

In the rejections of Claims 1 and 15, Applicant understands that the Examiner submits that certain elements of the claim are obvious in light of disclosure in the art regarding packet encryption.

In new claim 23, Applicant has added a claim directed toward:

"processing said input data, at said first communication device, to compute a single encrypted checksum of the entire facsimile document"

Applicant respectfully submits that packet encryption would not render obvious encrypting the entire input data as claimed.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 23-25 are in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 5, 7 and 10-25 are in condition for allowance.

5. Conclusion Of Remarks

For at least the reasons stated above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of this application are in condition for allowance and early and favorable action thereon is requested.

If the Examiner believes that additional issues may be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned attorney for Applicant at (203) 924-3180.

6. Authorization

No fee is believed due with this response. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for the response or credit any overpayment to the Pitney Bowes, Inc. Deposit Account Number 16-1885, Order No. F-240.

In the event that an extension of time or additional extension of time is required to make this response timely filed, the Commissioner is requested to grant a

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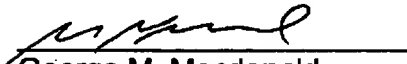
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petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the Pitney Bowes, Inc. Deposit Account Number 16-1885, Order No. F-240.

Respectfully submitted,


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